

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 04693 032234Z

14

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02 /070 W

----- 050611

R 032159Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3842

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 4693

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MCDONALD, LAWRENCE)

SUBJ: CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD'S REMARKS ON CHILEAN REARMAMENT
AND PERU

REF: SANTIAGO 4670

1. ON READING TEXT OF CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD'S INTERVIEW
(REFTEL) PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR GENERAL ODICIO CALLED
ON ME JULY 3 TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN RE REMARKS ON PERUVIAN
REARMAMENT. SAID THAT AS WE KNEW HIS GOVT, AND HE
PERSONALLY, HAD WORKED HARD AND LONG TO IMPROVE RELATIONS
AND BUILD UP CONFIDENCE BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU. HE FELT
CONGRESSMAN'S REMARKS MIGHT HAVE UNSETTLING EFFECT.

2. I TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD WAS IN
CHILE AS GUEST OF GOC, AND THAT WE HAD HAD NO PRIOR
KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT HE WOULD SAY. AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS
HE WAS FREE TO EXPRESS HIMSELF IN ANY WAY, AND NOTHING HE
SAID SHOULD BE CONSTRUED AS NECESSARILY REFLECTING VIEWS
OF USG.

3. ODICIO SEEMED SATISFIED BY THIS EXPLANATION.

4. COMMENT: CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD IS FIRST MEMBER
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PAGE 02 SANTIA 04693 032234Z

OF CONGRESS TO VISIT CHILE SINCE GROUP WHICH CAME HERE

AS PART OF US DELEGATION TO INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT
BANK MEETING IN EARLY APRIL 1974. EMBASSY WELCOMES
HIS ARRIVAL, SINCE WE HAVE BEEN HOPING FOR MANY MONTHS
THAT CONGRESSMEN MIGHT VISIT CHILE TO FORM ON-THE-SPOT
OPINIONS REGARDING EVENTS HERE. NEVERTHELESS, AS CAN
BE SEEN FROM REFTEL, CHILEANS MAY NOT FULLY APPRECIATE
FACT THAT CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD'S VIEWS ARE NOT UNIVERSALLY
SHARED IN CONGRESS. WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY HOPE THAT
OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, NOT COMMITTED ON CHILEAN
QUESTION, MIGHT PAY A VISIT TO SANTIAGO.

5. AFTERNOON JULY 3, CONGRESSMAN STOPPED BY EMBASSY.
HE AND AMBASSADOR HAD FRIENDLY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON
CHILEAN PROBLEMS IN GENERAL AND ARMS SUPPLY IN
PARTICULAR.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTIA04693
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750232-0345
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750787/aaaaczv.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SANTIAGO 4670
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD'S REMARKS ON CHILEAN REARMAMENT AND PERU
TAGS: OVIP, (MCDONALD, LAWRENCE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006